

now know we are not in this fight alone. Imagine having to fight against the almighty Congress when you are one jurisdiction, obviously without the means to let the entire country understand what is happening, and so most Americans had no idea until the arrests took place. Just as the District has been fighting for a vote in the people's House, the House of Representatives, and over and over again we found that most Americans thought we had the vote. There has been a nationwide survey done, and it is very interesting. It shows that more than 60 percent of the American people are for voting rights for the District of Columbia, and that survey has been cut open so as to see whether there are differences as to where people live, north and south, whether people have served in the military or not, whether people go to church or not, and the encouraging thing to those of us who live in the District of Columbia is that no matter how you cut it, Americans believe that if you pay Federal income taxes, you ought to have a vote in this body.

Yes, I have a vote in committee. Yes, I can speak as I am now. Yes, I have every privilege of the House—except that privilege that created the Nation, the privilege to vote, to cast the final vote. But, I have gone to funerals of young men who died in Iraq and Afghanistan, yet I could not vote yea or nay on whether they should have been there in the first place. Surely, if the American people realized that, there would be shame cast on the Congress.

Now the District is struggling, not for the voting rights and statehood it deserves but for the home rule and self-government it already has. It is far too late in history for any Americans to be struggling for the right to govern themselves at the local level as they see fit and to spend the funds they raise at the local level in any way they choose. That, my friends, if you are looking to the Founders, you will find that that was for them a first principle.

And so other Americans have now come to our assistance, and the difference between them and the residents whom I represent is that they have that vote on the floor of this House

while we do not. As Members voted to take away some of the local rights of the district I represent every Member of this body could vote on that matter except the Member who represented the Nation's Capital that was the object of that vote.

□ 1520

You will not find any American anywhere who will say that that represents what they believe or what our country stands for. That is why every Member of this House has been sent or will be sent a letter, and I am reading from just one part of it, because this letter comes from the coalition of a hundred different national organizations: "Should lawmakers continue to advance attacks on the District of Columbia's autonomy, we will make certain that our members—in every District—know how their representatives are spending their time in Washington: meddling in the affairs of a local jurisdiction, the District of Columbia, rather than focusing on their own residents and on the Nation's true, pressing business."

I have spent my entire service in the Congress trying to rid the District appropriation of anti-home rule attachments. We were successful in clearing the DC appropriation bill of all of the anti-democratic attachments for the first time last Congress. We did not engage in that fight only to have them put right back on. We did not enjoy seeing Congress play shutdown chicken with the American people either, and Congress must not even think about shutting down a local government ever again over a Federal fight again.

During the civil rights movement we called our approach passive resistance to tell the world we were nonviolent. But that was all that was passive about us. The operative word was "resistance." Once we resisted, civil rights workers found we were not alone. Today, District residents are joined by allies who stand with us and are working with us. On this we have no doubt. The American people are with District residents when we say local laws are for local residents alone, and most especially when we insist that when it's our money, we mean ours and only ours.

The Nation's Capital should be the 51st State by now. The city's taxpaying citizens should at least have a vote in Congress, the very Congress that demands that the citizens who live here abide by the laws that the Congress enacts.

DC residents and their local leaders are fighting with all they have. What they need most now, and what I am gratified that they are receiving, is the support of other Americans who do have the basic rights that the citizens of the Nation's Capital are still seeking. "Don't tread on DC."

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 3 o'clock and 25 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

□ 1552

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. WEST) at 3 o'clock and 52 minutes p.m.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. BURTON of Indiana (at the request of Mr. CANTOR) for today on account of personal reasons.

Mr. COBLE (at the request of Mr. CANTOR) for today after noon on account of constituent appointments in the district.

Mr. ELLISON (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 3 o'clock and 53 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Monday, July 18, 2011, at noon for morning-hour debate.

EXPENDITURE REPORTS CONCERNING OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL

Reports concerning the foreign currencies and U.S. dollars utilized for Speaker-Authorized Official Travel during the second quarter of 2011 pursuant to Public Law 95-384 are as follows:

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, JENNIFER STEWART, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN MAY 26 AND MAY 30, 2011

| Name of Member or employee | Date | | Country | Per diem ¹ | | Transportation | | Other purposes | | Total | |
|----------------------------|---------|-----------|-------------------|-----------------------|--|------------------|--|------------------|--|------------------|--|
| | Arrival | Departure | | Foreign currency | U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ² | Foreign currency | U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ² | Foreign currency | U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ² | Foreign currency | U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ² |
| Jennifer Stewart | 5/27 | 5/28 | Belgium | | 244.00 | | (3) | | | | 244.00 |
| | 5/28 | 5/29 | Afghanistan | | 28.00 | | (3) | | | | 28.00 |
| | 5/29 | 5/30 | Estonia | | 242.00 | | (3) | | | | 242.00 |
| Committee total | | | | | | | | | | | 514.00 |

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

³ Military air transportation.